

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Asano et al.  
Appl. No.: 09/530,200  
Conf. No.: 3922  
Filed: May 15, 2000  
Title: NATURAL LANGUAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS AND NATURAL  
LANGUAGE PROCESSING METHOD  
Art Unit: 2626  
Examiner: Lamont M. Spooner  
Docket No.: 112857-779

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL**

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action dated March 12, 2007, the Applicants respond as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 11 of this paper.